

Pan Flu & Us: Linking Home Care and Public Health

Are You Ready for Pandemic Flu?



Montgomery General Hospital
Boyer Learning Center

March 12, 2008



THE LATEST ON AVIAN AND PANDEMIC FLU

SHOULD WE WORRY IN HOME CARE?

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Pan Flu & Us: Linking Home Care and Public Health
March 12, 2008 – Boyer Learning Center – Montgomery General Hospital, Olney, MD

Objectives

By the end of this presentation participants will be able to:

- State why individuals and homecare agencies need to prepare for pandemic flu.
- Describe current avian flu research findings.
- Describe what pandemic flu means to you personally and professionally.
- List commonsense planning actions for individuals and home care agencies.
- Describe financial considerations for home care agency survival.
- Review useful resources and references.

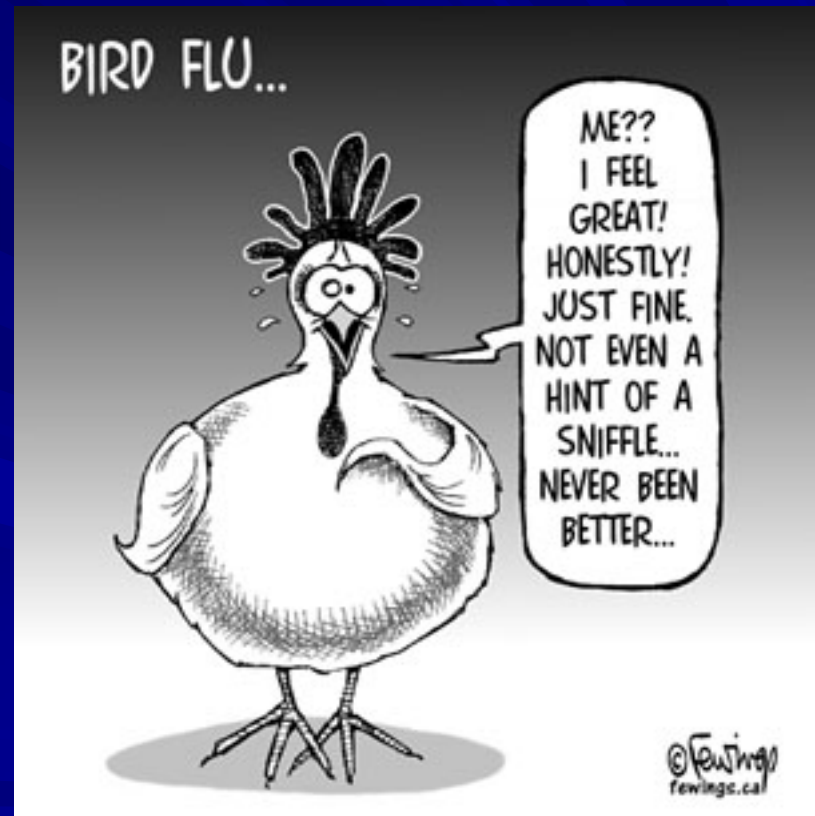


Care to Prepare, flu pandemics are:

■ ***Inevitable*** according to CDC

“The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other public health experts agree that it is not a question of IF a pandemic will occur, but **WHEN** it will occur. If America is not adequately prepared, pandemic flu could seriously affect everyone economically.”

<http://www.pandemicflu.gov/takethelead/index.html>



Care to Prepare, flu pandemics are:

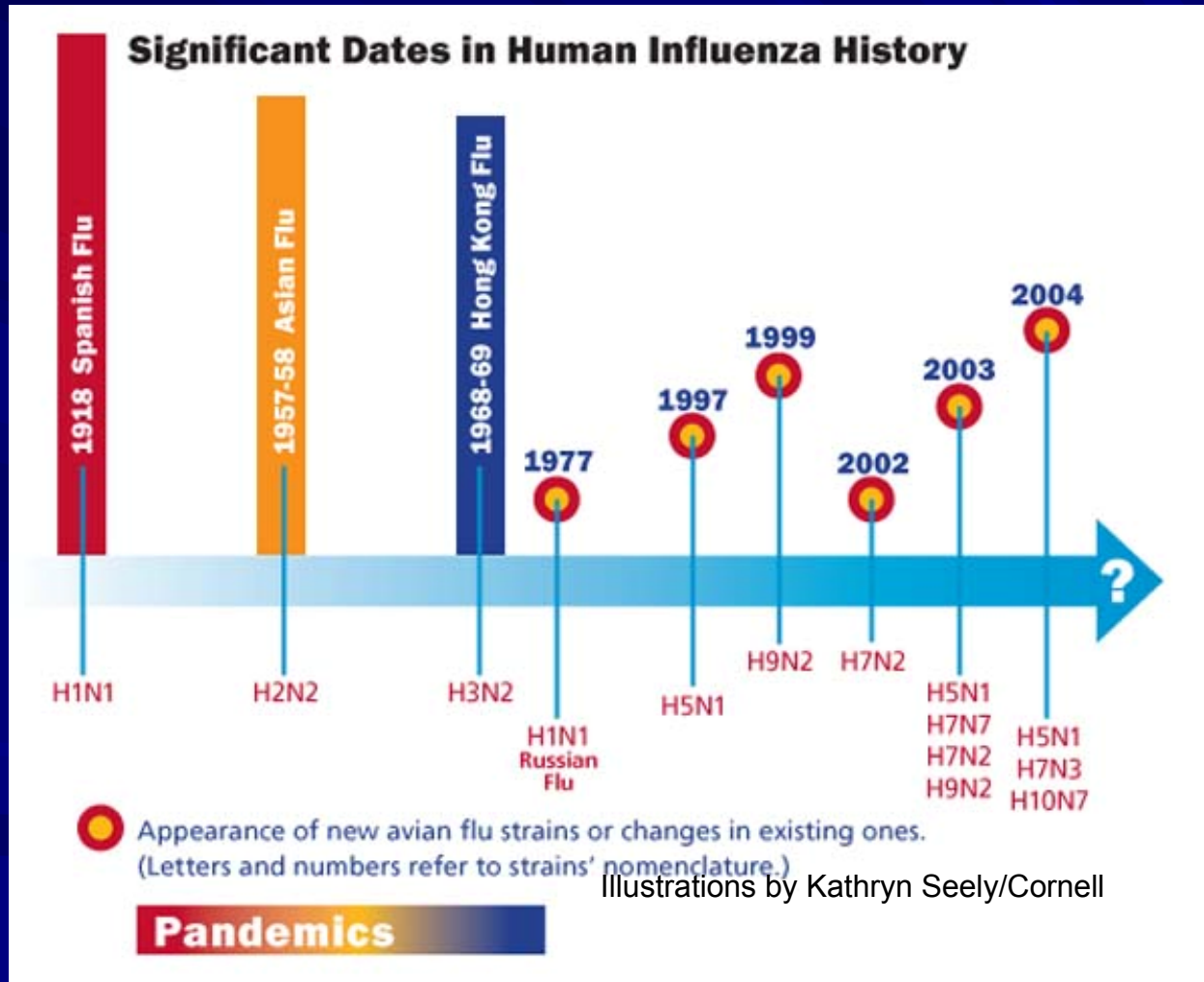


Mad cow with sick bird wants to sit next to you on a long flight

- ***Inevitable*** according to WHO
“Experts at WHO and elsewhere believe that the world is now closer to another influenza pandemic than at any time since 1968, when the last of the previous century's three pandemics occurred.”

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/phase/en/index.html

Care to Prepare, flu pandemics are regular & inevitable



Care to Prepare, flu pandemics deadly



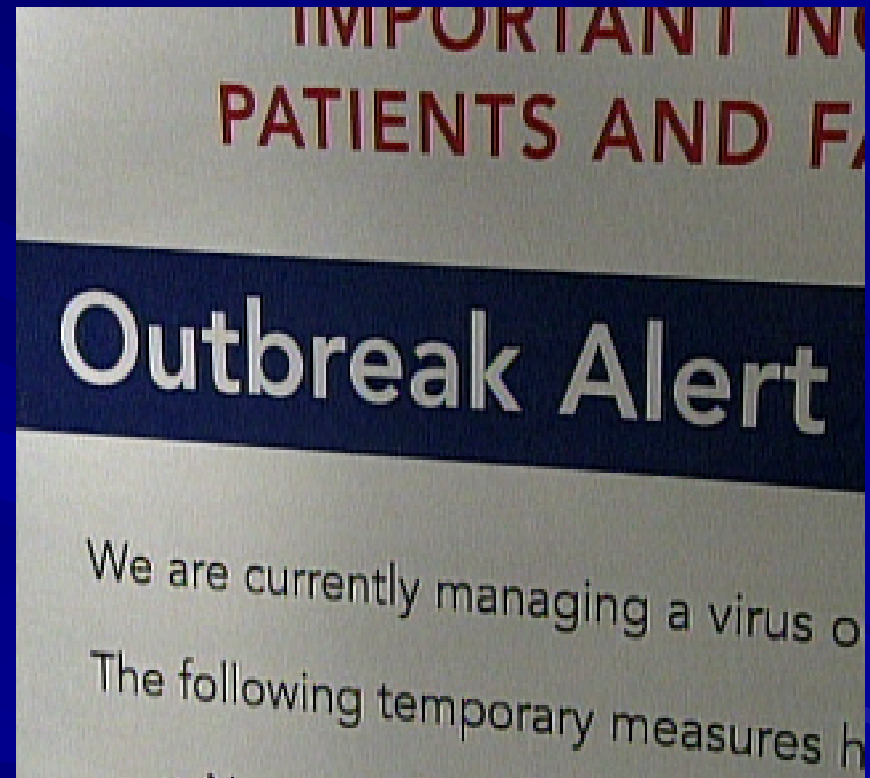
1918 Flu Pandemic

Home Care Agencies at Risk

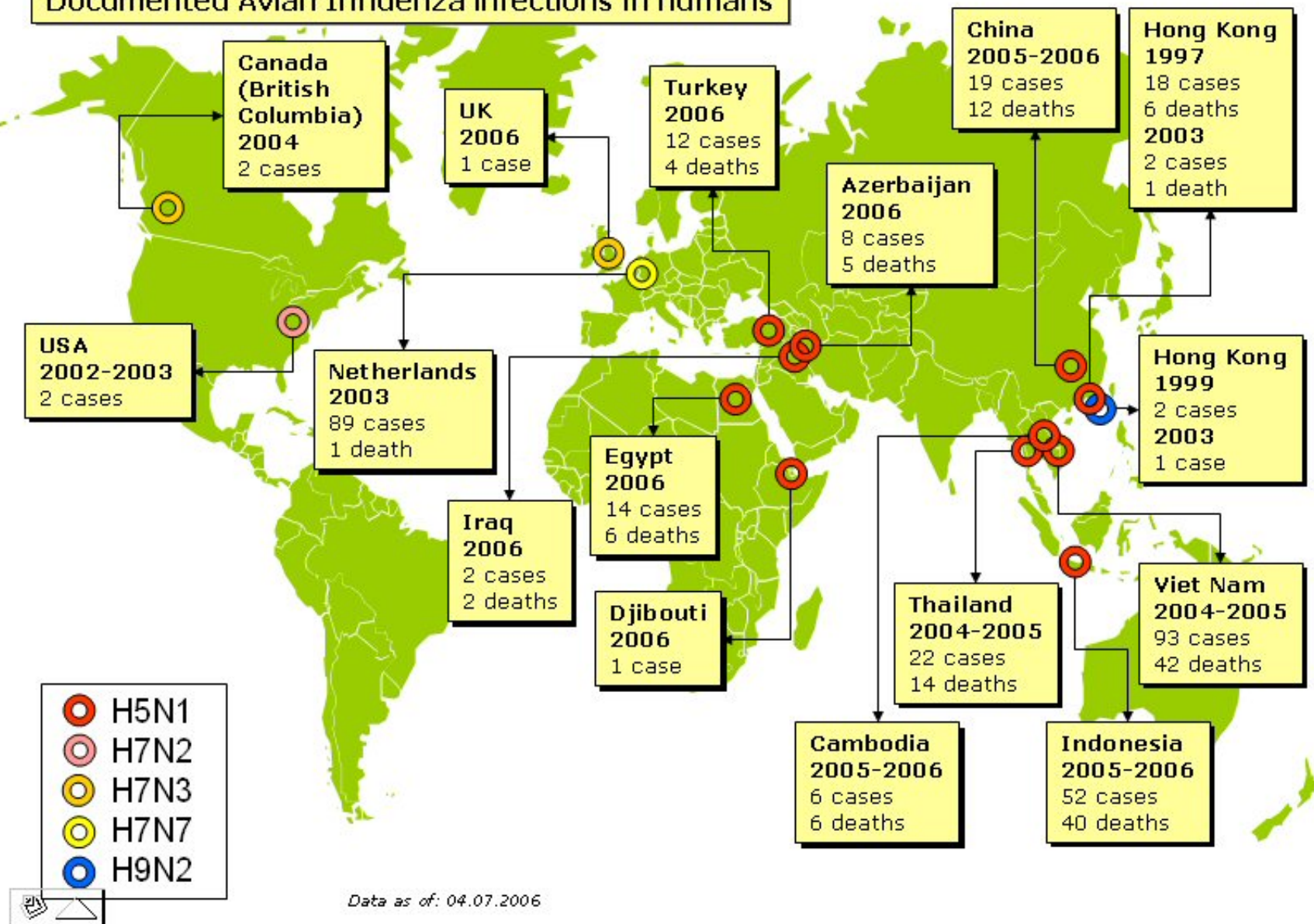


Care to Prepare, US Burden in pan flu

- 30% population ill
(90 million)
- 50% seek health care
 - Severe (1918-like)
1,903,000 excess
deaths
 - Strain on all
businesses, 20 - 80%
absenteeism health
care, health care
agency closures



Documented Avian Influenza infections in humans



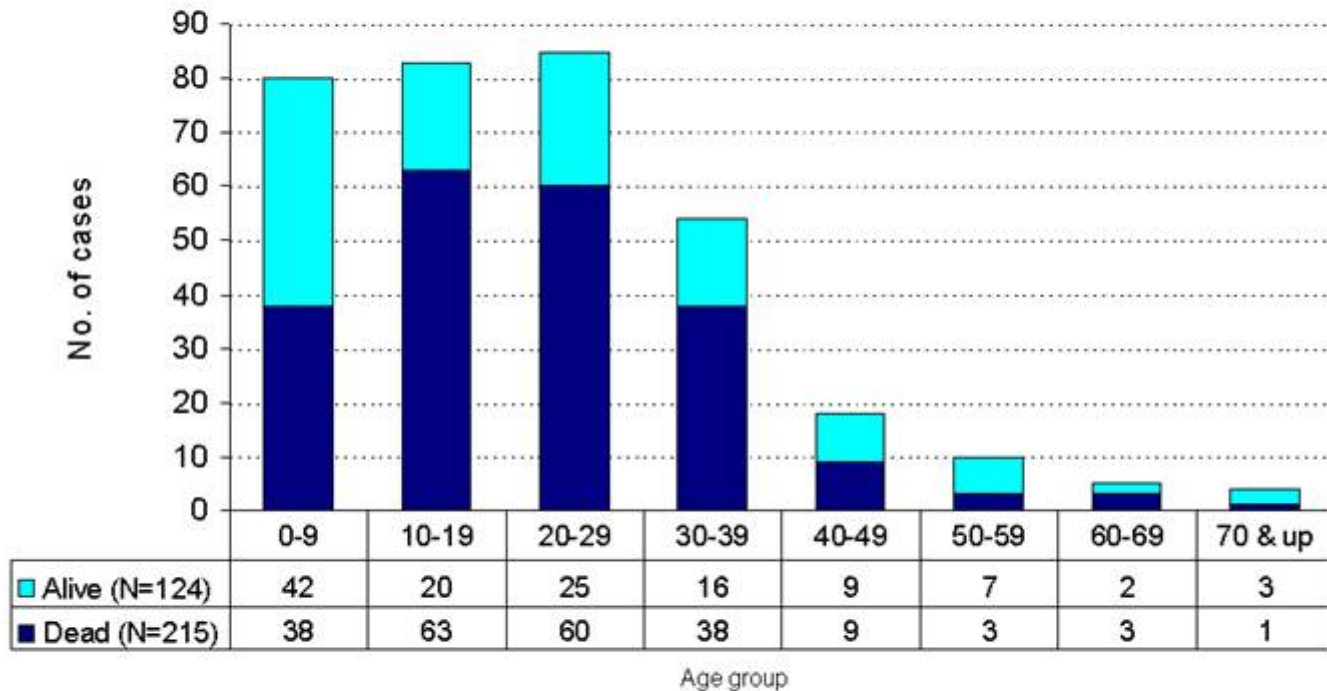
Current phase of alert in the WHO global flu preparedness plan

Inter-pandemic phase New virus in animals, no human cases	Low risk of human cases	1
	Higher risk of human cases	2
Pandemic alert New virus causes human cases	No or very limited human-to-human transmission	3
	Evidence of increased human-to-human transmission	4
	Evidence of significant human-to-human transmission	5
Pandemic	Efficient and sustained human-to-human transmission	6

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/phase/en/index.html

Research-Incidence & Demographics

Human Avian Influenza A (H5N1) Cases by Age Group and Outcome
(n=339) (as of 21 January 2008)



As of 21 January 2008, total of 351 cases were reported officially to WHO
The 12 cases in Turkey were excluded.



Research – Transmission

■ Modes of Transmission

- Contact
- Droplet
- Aerosol
- Airborne



Precautions Avian Flu in Institutions

■ Standard Precautions

- Hand hygiene before and after all patient contact or contact with items potentially contaminated with respiratory secretions.

■ Contact Precautions

- Gloves and gown for all patient contact.
- Dedicated equipment such as stethoscopes, disposable blood pressure cuffs, disposable thermometers, etc.

■ Droplet & Eye protection (i.e., goggles or face shields)

- Wear when within 3 feet of the patient.

■ Airborne Precautions

- Place the patient in an airborne isolation room (AIR). Such rooms should have monitored negative air pressure in relation to corridor, with 6 to 12 air changes per hour (ACH), and exhaust air directly outside or have recirculated air filtered by a high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter. If an AIR is unavailable, contact the health-care facility engineer to assist or use portable HEPA filters (see [Environmental Infection Control Guidelines](#)).
- Use fit-tested respirator, at least as protective as NIOSH-approved N-95 filtering facepiece (i.e., disposable) respirator, when entering room.

Instructions for family caregiver at home:

- ✓ **Segregate** ill in private bedroom with bathroom
- ✓ **Keep well away from ill**, especially children, adults who cannot follow infection control instructions, and pets (cats, dogs, birds)
- ✓ **Designate one responsible primary caregiver**
- ✓ No need for special plates/utensils or linens. Wash soiled dishes in warm soapy water or dishwasher. Wash linens in family washer with detergent.
- ✓ **Masks** may be useful if care within 3 feet of pt. Gowns not recommended. Hand washing after all contact. Respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette, muffle.

2 Weapons of mass destruction in a flu pandemic



Research – Incubation Period



Research – Pathology

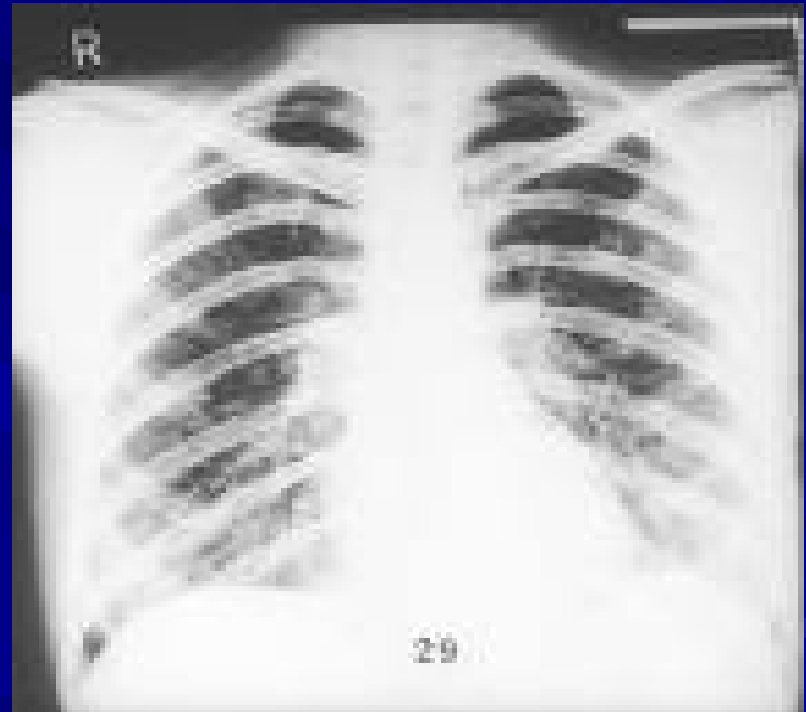
■ Primary cause of death

■ Viral load influences outcome

■ Virus in

- pharynx, trachea, respiratory tract
- blood
- cerebrospinal fluid
- brain
- placenta
- fetus
- feces
- intestines

Fulminant viral pneumonia → ARDS



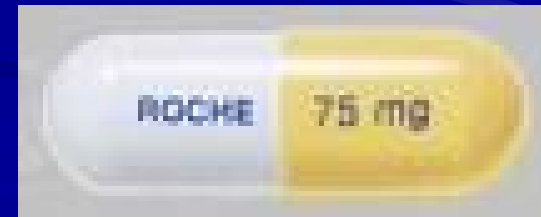
Research – Clinical S & S

- ***Fever***
- ***Pneumonia***
- ***Dyspnea***
- ***Cough***
- ***Leukopenia***
- ***Thrombocytopenia***
- ***GI***
- ***Neurological***
- ***Myalgia***
- ***Conjunctivitis***

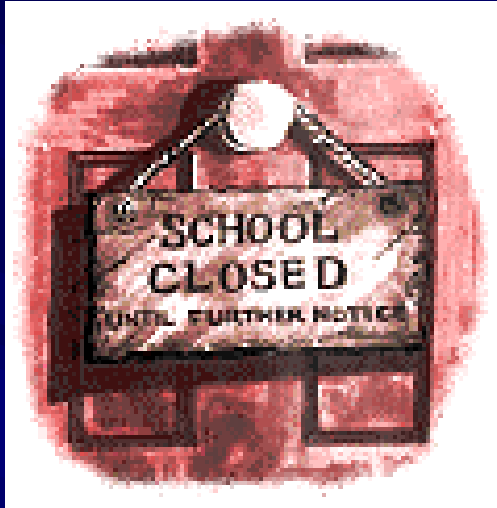


Research – Treatment

- Fully resistant, amantadine & rimantadine
- Peramivir, FDA approved research, new neuraminidase inhibitor, IV
- Oseltamivir (**Tamiflu**) (primary or secondary prevention), PO
 - Dose – 75 mg bid 5 days, **150 mg bid 10 days**
 - SNS 25% US population
- Zanamivir (**Relenza**) (primary or secondary prevention) nasal



Personal Effects



Professional Effects



Commonsense Planning, Code Flu



Designate 2 point persons

A screenshot of a 'MEDICAL OFFICES AND CLINICS PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PLANNING CHECKLIST'. The document is from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It provides a structured way for medical offices and clinics to assess their preparedness for a pandemic influenza response. The checklist includes sections for 'Structure for planning and decision making' and 'Other members'. It has columns for 'Completed', 'In Progress', and 'Not Started'. The text on the page explains the purpose of the checklist and provides instructions on how to use it. The checklist items include: 'Pandemic influenza has been incorporated into emergency management planning for the organization.', 'A planning committee has been created to specifically address pandemic influenza preparedness for the medical office or clinic.', 'A person has been assigned responsibility for coordinating preparedness planning for the practice or organization (thereafter referred to as the pandemic influenza response coordinator).', 'Members of the planning committee include the following: (Insert below or attach list with name, title and contact information for each):', 'Administration: _____', 'Medical staff: _____', 'Nursing: _____', 'Reception personnel: _____', 'Environmental services (if applicable): _____', 'Clinic laboratory personnel (if applicable): _____', 'Other members: _____', 'A point of contact (e.g., person assigned infection control responsibility for the organization or as outside consultant) for pandemic influenza or infection control measures to prevent transmission of pandemic influenza has been identified. (Insert name, title, and contact information): _____'. There are also footnotes at the bottom of the page.

Obtain Planning Guides



Orient all staff

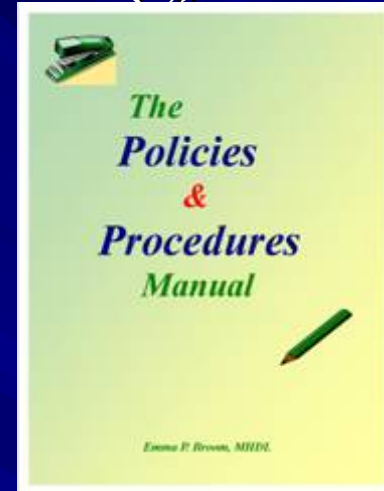


Establish communication & authority

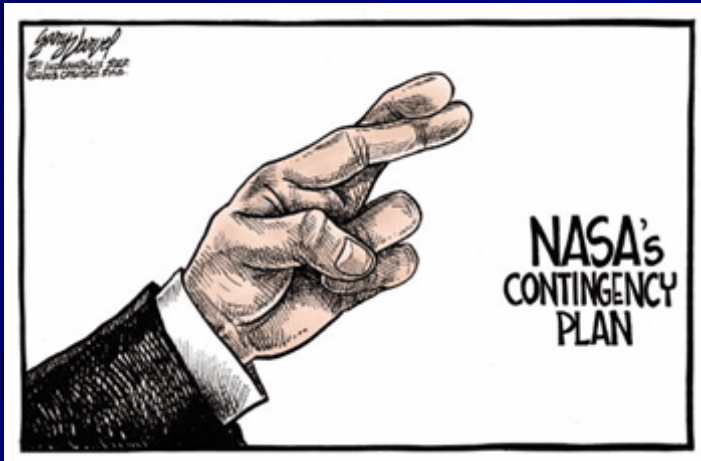
Commonsense Planning, Code Flu



Start with individual planning



Develop pan flu admit, visit, DC policies



Beef up patient contingency plans



Update skills of all supervisors

Commonsense Planning, Code Flu



Stock supplies



Designate a flu call nurse



Create job knowledge redundancy

■ *Volunteer List*

- Darlene Jackson
- Maranda Blanchard
- Ferdinand Benson
- Halley Simpson

Prepare flu volunteer list

Commonsense Planning, Code Flu



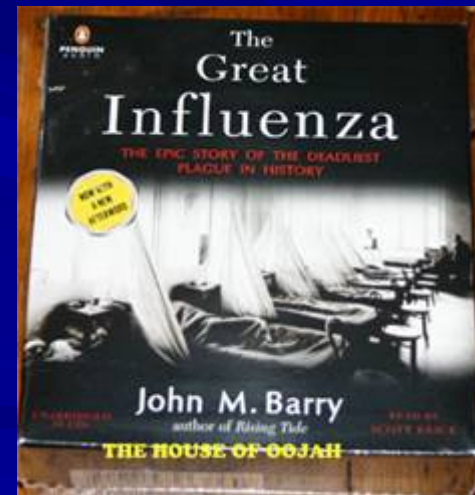
Implement social distancing



Develop brief paperwork systems



Provide emotional support



Read about the 1918 pandemic

Financial Considerations

- **SUPPLIES**
- **STAFF SHORTAGES**
- **REIMBURSEMENT**
- **VACCINE AND ANTIVIRAL MEDS**
- **UNUSUAL COSTS**
- **PLANNING**

Recommended Resources

- ✓ www.montgomerycountymd.gov/pandemicflu
 - Montgomery County DHHS pan flu website
- ✓ www.pandemicpractices.org
 - Center for Infectious Disease Research & Policy, U. of Minn.
- ✓ <http://emergency.cdc.gov/preparedness/>
 - CDC Emergency Preparedness
- ✓ <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/>
 - U.S. government avian/pan flu info
- ✓ <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/takethelead/index.html>
 - U.S. government pan flu Take the Lead
- ✓ www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic/healthprofessional.htm
 - CDC info for health professionals
- ✓ http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/en/
 - Latest WHO info on avian flu
- ✓ <http://www.getpandemicready.org/>
 - Practical advice for pan flu prep, non-governmental source

Recommended References

- Martin, S. (June 2008). Pandemic Economics: Financial Survival for Homecare Agencies in a Bird Flu Outbreak. *Home Health Care Management & Practice*.
- Martin, S. Pandemic Economics: Financial Survival for Home Care Agencies in a Bird Flu Outbreak. *Home Health Care Management & Practice*. Prepublished December 26, 2007; DOI:10.1177/108482230731076110.1177/0123456789123456. Available at <http://hhc.sagepub.com/cgi/rapidpdf/1084822307310761v1>
- Martin, S. (2007). Code flu: Common-sense steps to the development of an agency pandemic flu plan for home care. *Home Healthcare Nurse*, 25(9), 595-601.
- Martin, S. (2006). What's new with pandemic flu? Review of the latest Center for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for family caregivers of pandemic flu victims at home. *Home Healthcare Nurse*, 24(8), 485-486.
- Martin, S. (2006). Avian flu: Should we worry in home healthcare? *Home Healthcare Nurse*, 24 (1), 38-47.
- Taubenberger, J. K., & Morens, D. M. (2006). 1918 Influenza: The mother of all pandemics. *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, 12(1), 15-22.
- Writing Committee of the Second World Health Organization Consultation on clinical Aspects of Human Infection with Avian Influenza A (H5N1) Virus. (2008). Update on avian influenza A (H5N1) virus infections in humans. *NEJM*, 358(3), 261-273.

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March 12, 2008

Preparing Vulnerable Clients for a Pandemic

A Guide for Home Care Organizations

JoAnne Knapp, B.A., M.A.
Director of Emergency Preparedness Policy
Maryland Department of Disabilities
March 12, 2008

Objectives

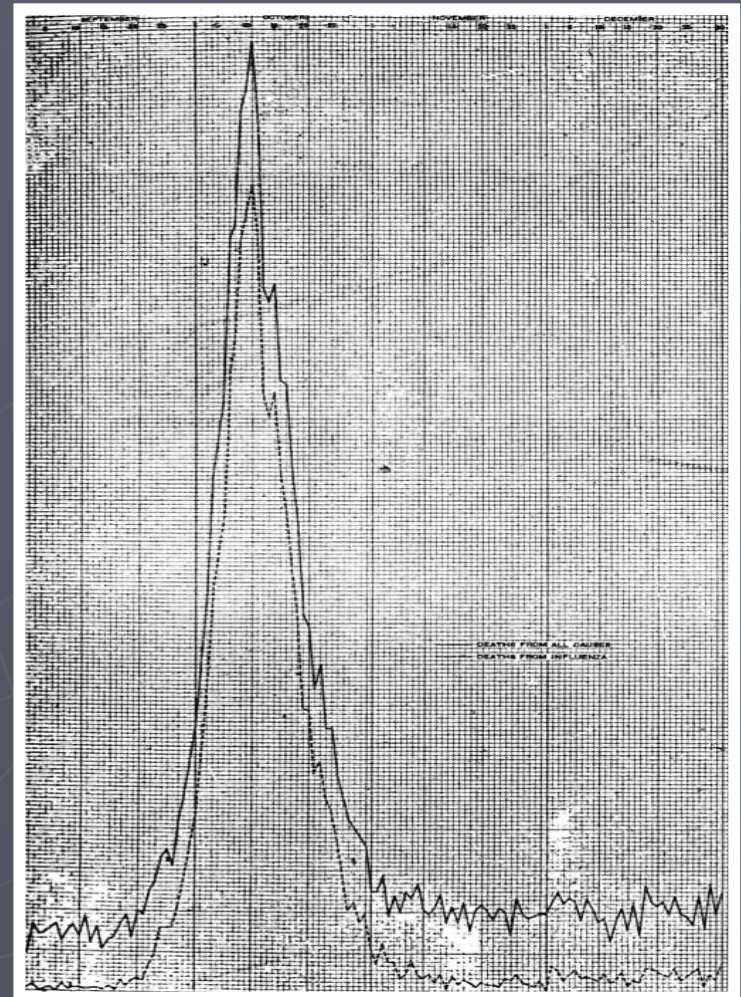
- ▶ 1. Advise Home Care workers on how to prepare themselves and their clients for a Pandemic
- ▶ 2. Assist Home Care workers to recognize the impact of a Pandemic on their agencies
- ▶ 3. Explain what Maryland is doing for Home Care workers and their at-risk clients in helping them prepare for a Pandemic

The Impact of Pandemic Influenza

- ▶ A pandemic comes in waves, each lasting 6-8 weeks, resulting in the pandemic lasting up to a year or longer.
- ▶ High levels of illness, social disruption, and death.
- ▶ Many businesses and the services they provide will stop, because so many people are sick at once.

How Will Your Organization Provide Services?

- ▶ In the face of a pandemic, workers providing vital services may become sick
- ▶ An example of the mortality increase in one state during the 1918 Influenza Pandemic



Be Prepared!

- ▶ Preparedness is the key to maintaining services during a pandemic, as well as avoiding getting sick.
- ▶ **Prepare yourself and your clients!**

The Role of Home Care Organizations

- ▶ Home care organizations will have to continue providing services for their clients, some of who may be sick. Workers may fall ill as well.
- ▶ Home care organizations also may be called upon to provide services for flu patients who do not require hospitalization, or for whom hospitalization is not an option because hospital bed capacity has been reached.

Have a Plan for the Organization

- ▶ The most important thing your organization can do is HAVE A PLAN.
- ▶ A committee should be formed to specifically address pandemic flu; incorporate the planning process into regular emergency management protocol.
- ▶ Have a written plan, incorporating the DHHS Pandemic Influenza plan, as well as the Maryland Pandemic Influenza Plan.

Key Components of a Plan

- ▶ A method for monitoring flu in the population you serve.
- ▶ A communication plan in the event of a pandemic.
- ▶ Education and training programs for personnel.
- ▶ Information on pandemic flu for clients and their families that are language/reading level appropriate.
- ▶ A plan for the management of patients, especially during the height of a pandemic.

Key Components of a Plan (continued)

- ▶ A plan for infection control.
- ▶ A plan for occupational health, including rules regarding the handling of staff who become ill at work, when ill staff can return to work, and staff who are at greater risk of complications if ill.
- ▶ A vaccine and antiviral use plan.
- ▶ Issues related to surge capacity.

Impact on Agency Employees

- ▶ During a pandemic, an organization's normal routines will be disrupted due to employee illness/absenteeism and increased demand for services.
- ▶ It is important to know that hours worked and duties performed may change. Staff may be cross-trained.

Working in a Pandemic

"If I don't work in a time of crisis, who will?"

- ▶ In a pandemic situation, it is important to report to work if healthy.
- ▶ Make arrangements with neighbors, family, or other members of a support network to care for children, elderly relatives, or people with special needs in the event of you working during the pandemic.
- ▶ However, if exhibiting flu symptoms **DO NOT GO TO WORK**

Limiting Exposure

- ▶ During an influenza pandemic local, state, or federal government can issue quarantine or isolation orders.
- ▶ **Social Distancing** is when people voluntarily avoid crowded places, social contact, or public events. Gatherings, schools and sporting events may be closed.
- ▶ It is important to adhere to isolation and quarantine orders because they are instrumental in preventing the spread of disease.

Personal Preparedness Kit

- ▶ In the event of having to stay at work unexpectedly, employees should be encouraged to have a personal preparedness kit. Items should include.
 - Clean clothing
 - Toiletries
 - Necessary medications
 - Identification stating your position as a health care worker.



Prepare at Home

- ▶ In the event of pandemic flu, it is important to have a preparedness kit at home for you and your family.
- ▶ This should include:
 - Non-Perishable foods.
 - Fluids
 - Necessary medications
 - Non-prescription medications, such as ibuprofen.

Who is at Risk?

- ▶ Pandemic flu is a threat to every person
- ▶ **Vulnerable populations** are at an increased risk during a pandemic due to a breakdown of their support system.

Who is Vulnerable?

► Vulnerable Populations include, but are not limited to:

- Children, adolescents, and the elderly.
- Individuals with emotional, physical, or cognitive disabilities.
- Individuals with substance abuse issues.
- The homebound.
- Immigrants.
- Individuals facing language barriers.



Preparing your Clients

- ▶ Pandemic flu seems like a far-off threat to many people.
- ▶ Motivate clients to be prepared by explaining that a flu pandemic is different than regular flu season, and millions of people will be affected.
- ▶ Explain the possibility that they will be asked to shelter in place, as well as methods of protecting themselves and being prepared.
- ▶ Encourage individual support systems.

Preparing your Clients

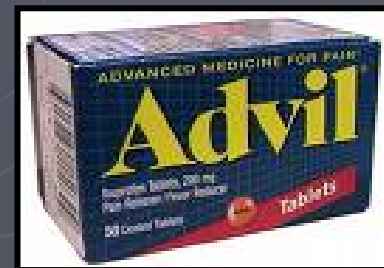
continued

- ▶ Tell them they must stay informed with local emergency plans and updates and follow directions of public health officials.
- ▶ Advise that local services may be limited due to illness in the population.
- ▶ Suggest they make plans for a current Power of Attorney, Advanced Directives, and Last Will and Testament.
- ▶ Encourage them to have a "care giver" plan in place

Stay at Home Kit

Your clients should have an Influenza Stay-Home Kit, including:

- ▶ Digital thermometer
- ▶ Alcohol wipes
- ▶ Fever reducing medication
- ▶ Juices and fluids (for 1-2 weeks)
- ▶ Bleach
- ▶ Disposable utensils, plates cups, napkins
- ▶ Tissues
- ▶ Radio and extra batteries
- ▶ Soap and water
- ▶ Hand sanitizer
- ▶ Trash bags
- ▶ Surgical masks
- ▶ List of internet resources to deliver goods (i.e. groceries) if necessary



Reduce your Client's Risk

- ▶ Although everyone is at risk during a pandemic, there are steps to take to reduce their risk of contracting pandemic flu when either they are sick or they are caring for someone else in their home who is sick.

Steps to Reducing Client Risk

Reminders for Clients

- ▶ **WASH YOUR HANDS!**
 - This is the single best preventative measure
- ▶ Wear a surgical mask; throw away after each use.
- ▶ Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth without washing hands.
- ▶ Do not carry contaminated laundry close to your body or face; wash hands after handling contaminated laundry.
- ▶ Give the ill person a bag at their bedside to dispose of used tissues.
- ▶ Clean counters and surfaces

Be Prepared for a Pandemic

- ▶ There is no way to predict when a pandemic will start, but it could be any time.
- ▶ A Pandemic is a global issue and have an effect on everyone.
- ▶ The best thing to do is **BE PREPARED!**

MD Can Help You Prepare

- ▶ Training workshops on how to help your clients prepare
- ▶ Local Special Needs Planning Groups
- ▶ Participation in local and statewide exercises
- ▶ Planning templates for provider organizations
- ▶ Preparedness presentations for individual groups

Additional Information

► Maryland

- <http://flu.maryland.gov>

► United States

- <http://www.pandemicflu.gov>

► World

- http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/en/index.html

THANK YOU


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Pan Flu & Us: Linking Home Care and Public Health

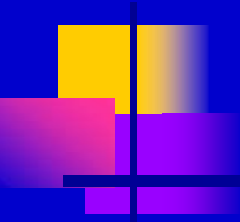
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March 12, 2008

Public Health and Home Care: Planning Together



Katherine (Kay) A. Aaby, MPH, BSN, RN
Public Health Preparedness and Response Program
Department of Health and Human Services
Montgomery County, Maryland

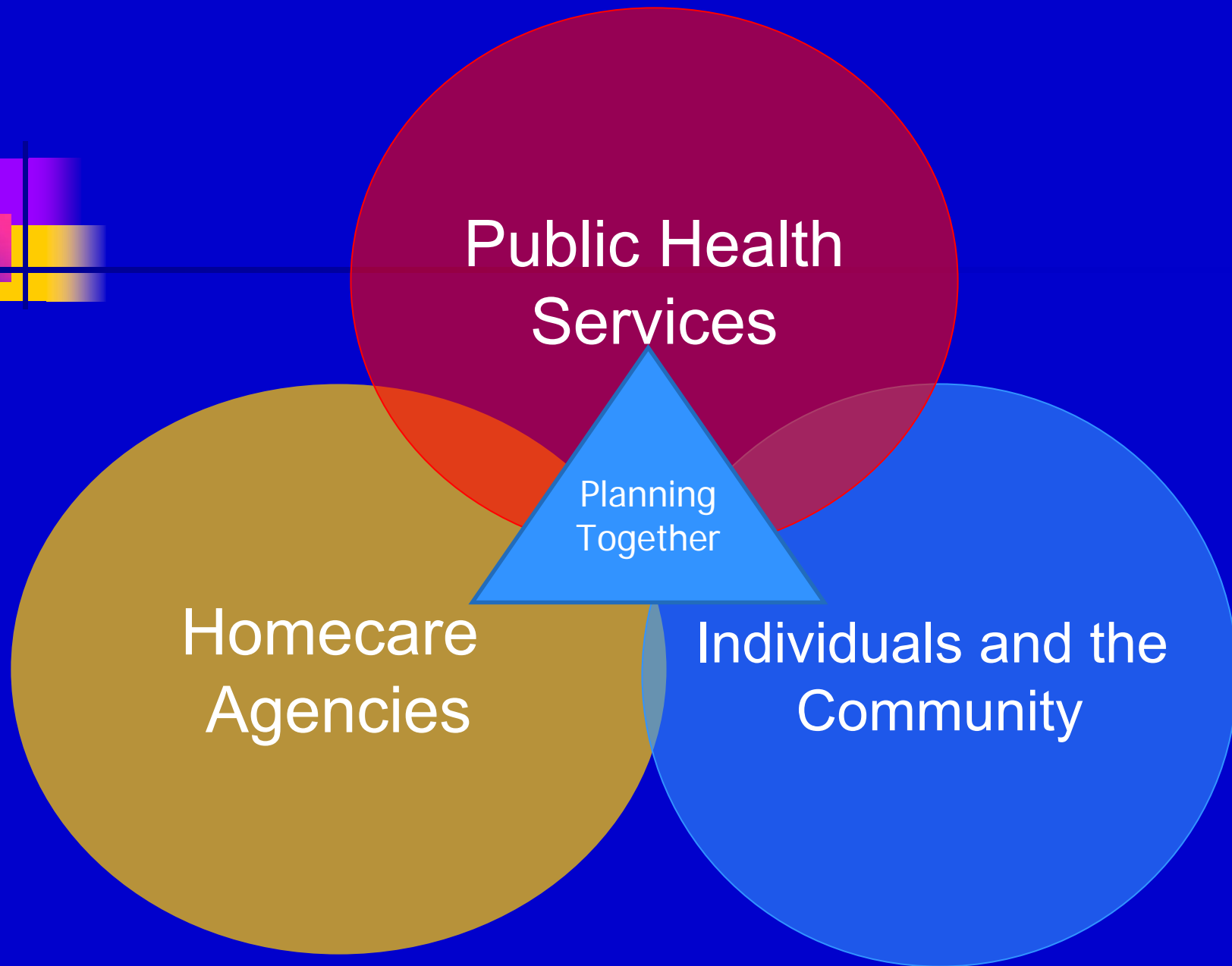
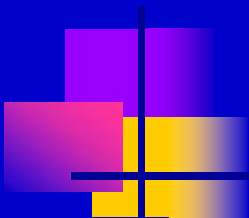
March 12, 2008



Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Describe the role of Public Health Services for a Pandemic Influenza
- Discuss the role of Home Care & Residential Service Agencies for a Pandemic Influenza
- Identify how Public Health Services and Home Care & Residential Service Agencies can collaborate to prepare for a pandemic influenza
- Identify tools and resources to help prepare yourself, clients and agency for a pandemic influenza





What is Public Health?

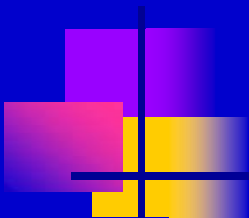
Public Health: The approach to medicine that is concerned with the health of the community as a whole. Public Health is community health. It has been said that: "Health care is vital to all of us some of the time, but public health is vital to all of us all the time."



Some Achievements

- Vaccination
- Control of infectious diseases
- Safer and healthier foods
- Recognition of tobacco use as a health hazard

www.cdc.gov



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graph TD; A[Montgomery County Local Government] --> B[Department of Health and Human Services]; B --> C[Public Health Services]; C --> D[Emergency Preparedness and Response Program];
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Montgomery
County Local
Government

Department of
Health and Human
Services

Public Health
Services

Emergency
Preparedness and
Response Program



Public Health Services

- Montgomery County:
 - School Health Services
 - Communicable Disease & Epidemiology
 - **Emergency Preparedness**
 - HIV/ AIDS
 - STD
 - Immunizations
 - TB Control
 - Dental
 - License & Regulatory Services
 - Assisted Living Facilities Certification
 - Environmental Health
 - Service Eligibility Unit
 - Community Health



Public Health Services

- Montgomery County:
 - Approximately 600 staff ranging from:
 - Program Administrative Assistant to Health Officer
 - 50% staff are School Health Nurses and Health Room Aides (10 month employees)
 - 88% Female, 12% Male
 - Average Age: 55



Public Health Challenges

- Climate Change
- Terrorism
- Infectious Diseases

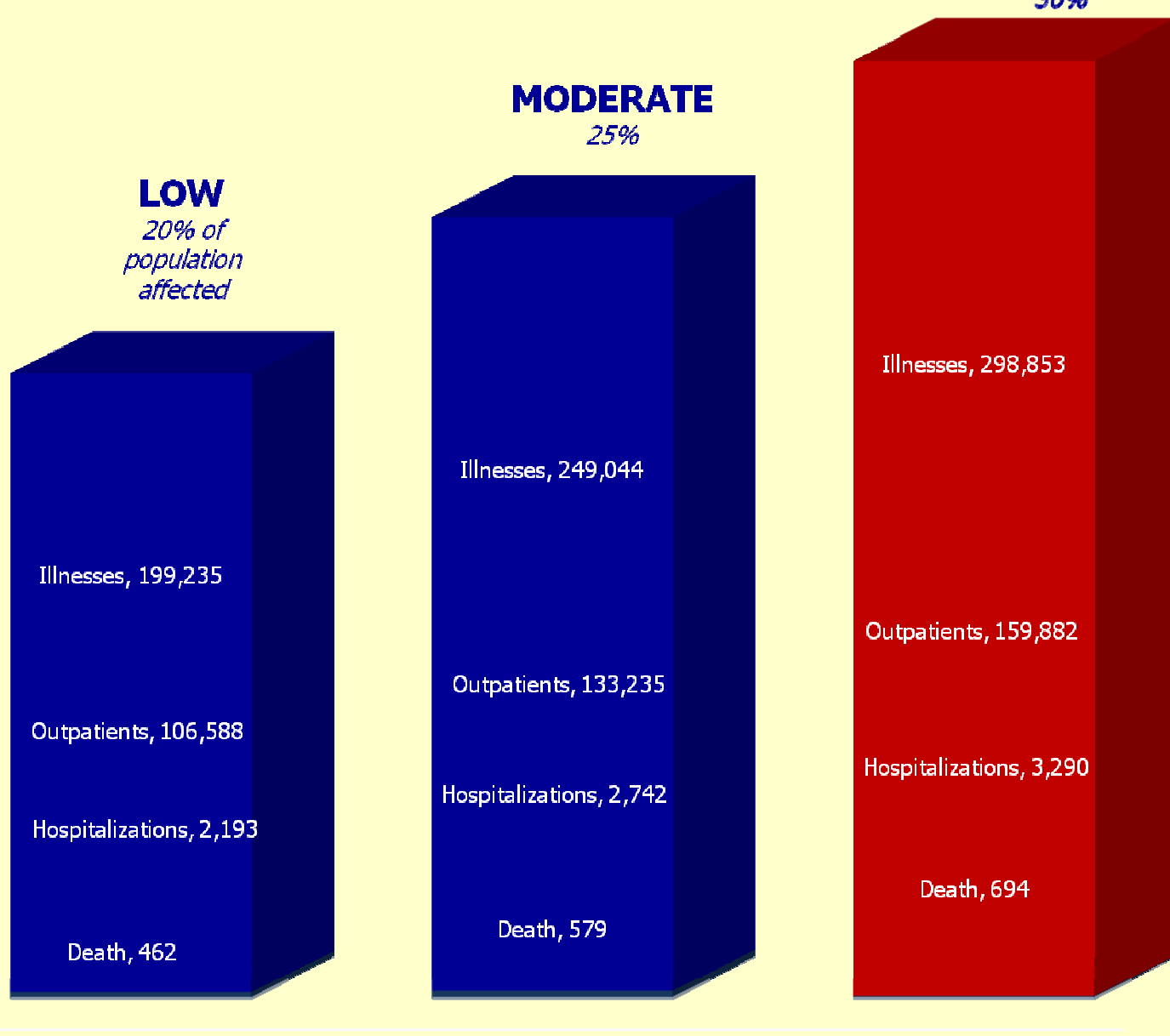
BRACING FOR PANDEMIC FLU

HIGH
30%

MODERATE
25%

LOW
20% of
population
affected

*Percentage
rates are based
on the county's
population
estimate of
nearly 1 million.*



Community Mitigation

1. Delay outbreak peak
2. Decompress peak burden on hospitals / infrastructure
3. Diminish overall cases and health impacts

#1



Pandemic outbreak:
No intervention

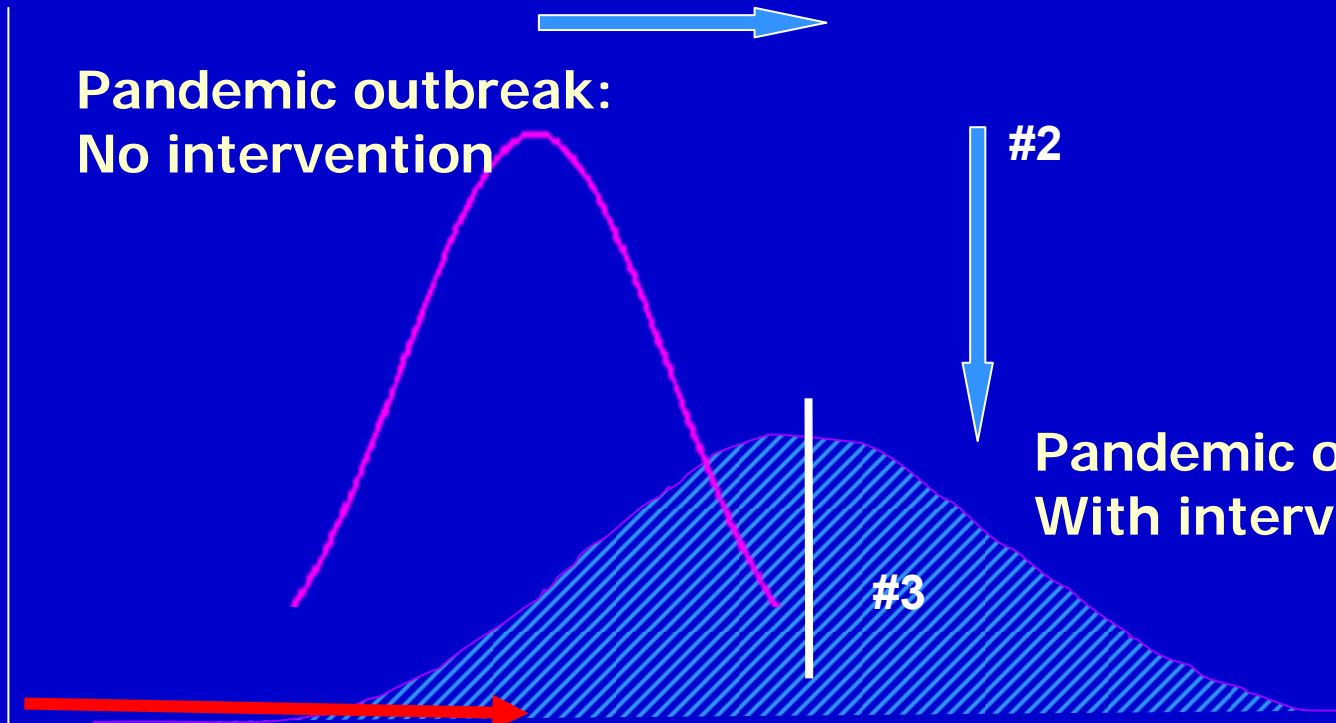
#2



Pandemic outbreak:
With intervention

#3

Daily
Cases



Days since First Case



Public Health/Pandemic Influenza

- Local public health authorities have the *primary responsibility* for the health of a community during Pandemic Influenza
- Pandemic Influenza is not only the responsibility of Public Health it is a *societal responsibility*



Planning Assumptions

- Expect a reduced workforce
- Plan for months not weeks
- No help from other jurisdictions
- No vaccine initially
- Very limited supply of anti-virals



Public Health Services

- Pre-Pandemic (now!) we are...
- During a Pandemic we will be...
- After a Pandemic we will be...

What is Public Health doing Pre-Pandemic?



- Preparing Pandemic Influenza Plans (such as Isolation & Quarantine Plans)
- Using a Pandemic Severity Index Model
- Providing Education (social distancing, cover your cough or sneeze, clean your hands, staying home when you are sick & annual flu vaccinations)
- Monitoring of Diseases on a Community Level
- Conducting Drills and Exercises

What will Public Health be doing during a Pandemic?



- Staffing Hotlines
- Activating the Medical Reserve Corps
- Implementing Isolation & Quarantine Procedures
- Opening Alternative Care Centers
- Providing Education/Risk Communication
- Continuing with Essential Services
- Dispensing Vaccine and Anti-virals

What will Public Health be doing after a pandemic?



- Evaluating response and lessons learned
- Carrying out recovery activities



Home Care & RSA Providers

- Pre-pandemic (now!) you are...
- During a pandemic, you'll be ...
- After a pandemic, you'll be...

What is Homecare doing Pre-Pandemic?



- Developing your agency's business continuity plan (patient tracking, back-up lists of patients receiving care, inventory of resources, obtaining medical supplies, stockpiling supplies, etc.)
- Developing personal & family preparedness plans
- Educating staff & clients (attending trainings, sponsoring in-house trainings, etc.)
- Signing up for e-mail alerts from the county
- Exploring the use of technology for monitoring patients

What will Homecare be doing Pre-Pandemic?



- Refining your infection control policies & procedures - reinforcing "wash your hands/cover you cough" messages
- Developing priority lists for care when delivery of care is limited
- Preparing your clients and their families (Checking BP, basic care, etc.)
- Forming key partnerships with other agencies especially Public Health

What will Homecare be doing during a Pandemic?



- Listening to & following instructions from Public Health Officials
- Assessing employees & clients for flu symptoms
- Practicing excellent infection control measures
- Carrying out standard, contact, eye and airborne precautions
- Providing basic “tea & toast” level of care to sick individuals and families (may be called upon to provide care for patients who do not require hospitalization for pan flu, or for whom hospitalization is not an option because hospitals have reached their capacity to admit patients)

What will Homecare be doing during a Pandemic?



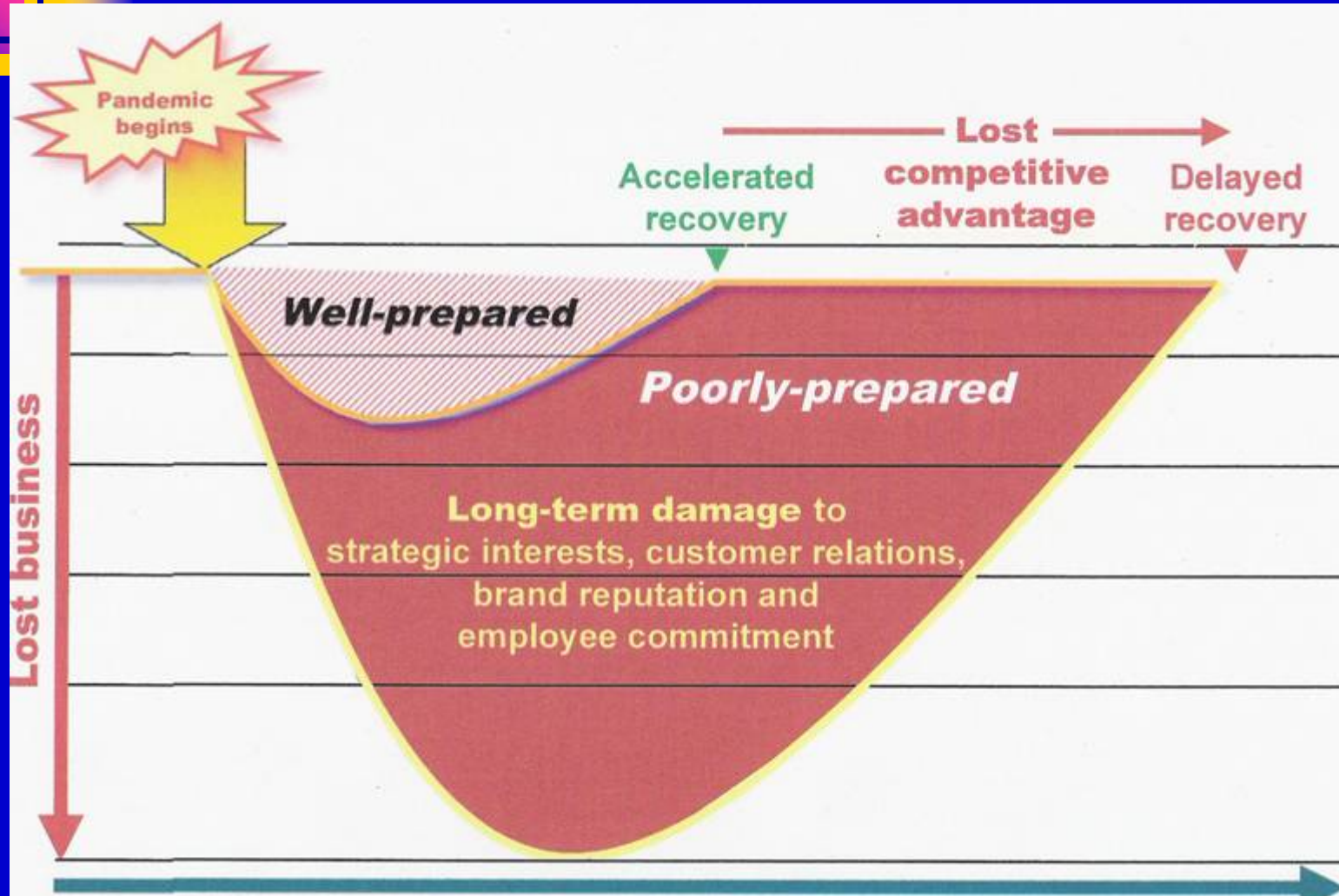
- Referring sick clients to designated care sites (when and if open)
- Dealing with deaths on site, following instructions from Public Health Officials
- Working with your pre-arranged partners for materials and equipment
- Communicating with local emergency responders

What will Homecare be doing after a Pandemic?



- Evaluating response and lessons learned
- Recovering operations and resuming normal operations post pan flu

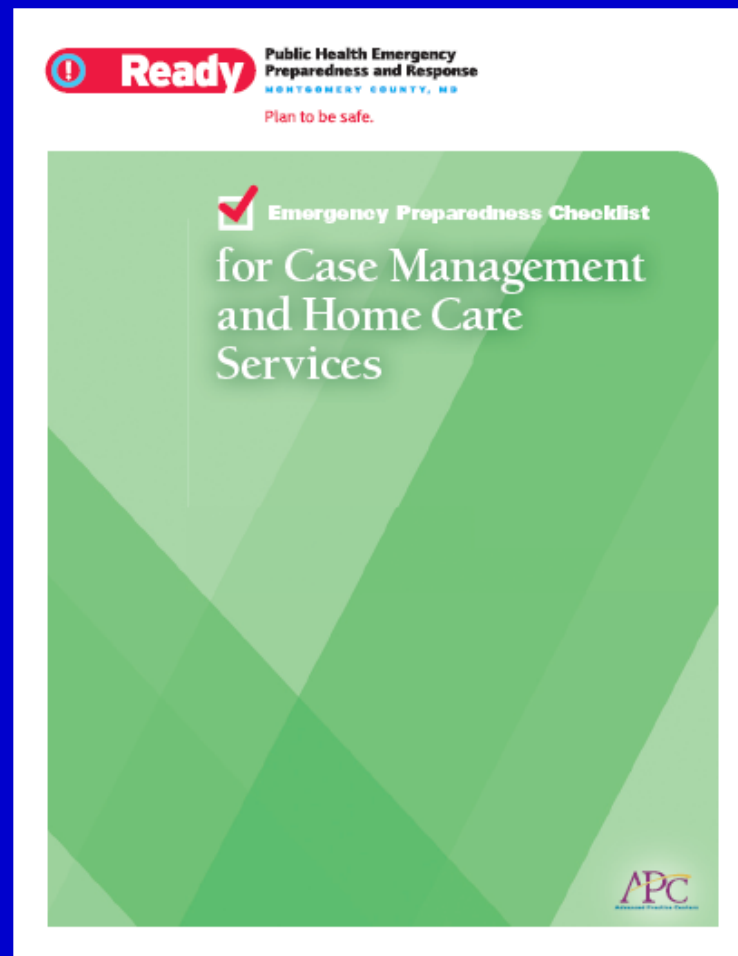
Capture the Competitive Advantage by Acting Now



Tools and Resources



Emergency Preparedness Checklist for Case Management and Home Care Services



Plan to Be Safe Preparedness Materials

Ready Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

Plan to be safe campaign

- Start a conversation
- Make a plan
- Make a kit using

Plan 9

A simple guide to the nine essential items to help you shelter-in-place in the event of an emergency.

Ready **Montgomery**
Emergency Preparedness and Response
Plan to be Safe.

Everybody Ready.

Disaster preparedness for individuals

Ready **Montgomery**
Emergency Preparedness and Response
Plan to be Safe.

Plan 9

A simple guide to the nine essential items to help you shelter-in-place in the event of an emergency.

Ready **Montgomery**
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Plan 9

You can do this!
Collect these nine essential items to help you shelter-in-place in the event of an emergency.

1 Water One gallon per person per day	2 Food Non-perishable food for at least three days	3 Clothes One change of clothes per person
4 Medications Two days' worth of prescription medications	5 Flashlight A bright flashlight with extra batteries	6 Can Opener Manual (not electric) can opener
7 Radio A battery-powered radio with NOAA weather radio capability	8 Hygiene Items Toilet paper, soap, and other hygiene items	9 First Aid A first aid kit with band-aids, antiseptic, and other supplies

Done!

For more information about emergency preparedness, contact:

Montgomery County, MD	montgomerycountymd.gov
American Red Cross	redcross.org
Center for Disease Control	cdc.gov
Disaster-Ready	disasterready.gov
National Emergency Management Agency	nema.gov
U.S. Department of Homeland Security	ready.gov

APC

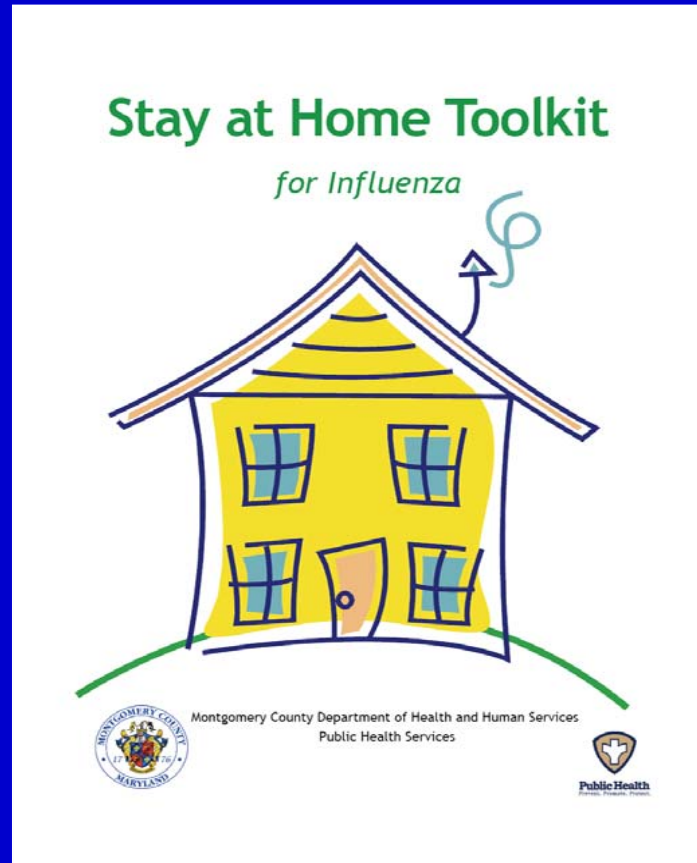
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Plan to Be Safe Materials-available in the following languages

- Cambodian
- Chinese
- English
- Farsi
- French
- Korean
- Russian
- Spanish
- Vietnamese

Stay At Home Toolkit for Influenza



COOP Tip Sheet

Ready Tip Sheet

Building a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)

Identifying and Prioritizing Critical Health Services



The Background

A MONTGOMERY COUNTY PERSPECTIVE

Building a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) is an important process in emergency preparedness and response planning. A COOP offers guidance for local health departments on practices that will continue critical services with a limited number of staff, as well as the shifting of staff from non-critical services to other job functions. Overall, a COOP facilitates the performance of a health department's functions during an emergency or other situation which may interrupt normal services.

During the spring of 2007 the Communicable Disease & Epidemiology Program of Public Health Services of the Montgomery County, Maryland Department of Health and Human Services undertook the development of a segment of a COOP. Communicable Disease & Epidemiology was the first section in Public Health Services to assume the task of identifying and prioritizing critical services. The Montgomery County Maryland Advanced Practice Center for Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response developed this tip sheet to share experiences with other local health departments as they develop their own plans.

Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) Chart

Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	Phase 6	Phase 7	Phase 8
Create plans & procedures that address all-hazards assumptions	Identify critical functions and services	Identify key personnel and orders of succession	Provide data support systems/vital records	Identify alternate facilities	Identify communication systems and emergency contact information	Reinforce by education, training and exercise programs	REVIEW COOP ANNUALLY



A Tip Sheet from the
Montgomery County, Maryland,
Advanced Practice Center

Pandemic Influenza Power Point Presentation Guide

Avian Influenza and Pandemic Influenza Presentation Guide

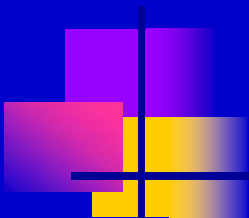




Tools and Resources

- Tools:
 - www.montgomerycountymd.gov/apc
- Stay At Home Toolkit:
 - www.montgomerycountymd.gov/pandemicflu
- Emergency Notification:
 - www.alert.montgomerycountymd.gov
- Medical Reserve Corps:
 - activ.montgomerycountymd.gov

- 
- Contact Information for Kay Aaby
 - Kay.Aaby@montgomerycountymd.gov
 - 240-777-1240



*“Coming together is beginning,
Keeping together is progress,
Working together is success.”*

-Henry Ford

Pan Flu & Us: Linking Home Care and Public Health

Are You Ready for Pandemic Flu?



Montgomery General Hospital
Boyer Learning Center

March 12, 2008